



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northeastern Area
State & Private
Forestry

180 Canfield Street
Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

172

File Code: 3410
Date: July 2, 2004

Mr. Kevin Thorpe
USDA Agricultural Research Service
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center-East
B-402, BARC-EAST
Beltsville, MD 20705

Dear Kevin:

On June 14, 2004, I conducted an aerial survey for gypsy moth-caused tree defoliation at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. I am pleased to report that no defoliation was detected at, or in the vicinity of, your site.

However, if you anticipate requesting either financial or technical assistance for gypsy moth control in 2005, please contact Brad Onken (304) 285-1546 or me (304) 285-1555 before August 27, 2004.

I have also enclosed a pest alert on the emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*. This exotic beetle feeds on various species of ash and is a major threat to the ash resource of the region. Emerald ash borer has been detected in areas of Ohio, Michigan, Virginia and Maryland. The two most common ways of spreading emerald ash borer is through the movement of infested nursery stock or through the movement of infested fire wood. Additional information on emerald ash borer can be found at www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/eab.

Please contact me of the above number if you have any questions regarding this aerial survey letter or emerald ash borer.

Sincerely,

RODNEY L. WHITEMAN
Forester
Forest Health Protection

Enclosure

Cc: Robert Tichenor, MDA
Sally Hughes, MDA
Noel Schneeberger, AO